greater tactile familiarity and is therefore less visually demanding.

FIG. **11** schematically illustrates a particularly advantageous use of keyboard **102** when used with a workstation **150** as described above. Keyboard **102** is mounted for movement over screen **152** and moves up and down with respect to screen **150** on tracks **41** on either side of the screen.

The keyboard is provided with a straight upper surface which forms a cursor bar **156**. As the keyboard is moved along the screen, the cursor bar **156** provides a visual guide to the line on which the cursor is moving on the screen. As the operator inputs text to the terminal, the keyboard may be moved down the screen with the cursor bar aligned with the line being typed. Should the operator need to change his gaze from the copy viewing area to the screen, the cursor bar immediately points out the line being typed, without confusion.

The arrangement shown in FIG. **11** requires minimal shifting of the operator's gaze from cursor line to keyboard or from the copy viewing area to keyboard. Preferably, there is a maximum shift of 15° between the copy viewing area and the screen and less than 15° from the cursor line at the top of the keyboard to the center of the keys. Viewing the copy viewing area, keyboard, and screen is thus facilitated with minimal shift in gaze. Even if the user does not have total tactile familiarity with the keyboard, efficiency is greatly increased due to the decreased eye strain achieved with the juxtaposition of the three areas.

Modifications within the scope of the appended claims will be apparent to those who are skilled in the art.

What is claimed is:

1. A keyboard for a computer for operating with hands of a user disposed in a prehensile position, said keyboard comprising:

a keyboard body,

keyboard means located at an upper surface of said keyboard body and having keys for depressing by movement of fingers of a user in a first direction;

spacing means mounted at a forward edge of said keyboard means for operating by movement of a thumb of the user;

activating means mounted on said keyboard body on a surface transverse to said upper surface, located centrally with respect to a length of said keyboard means for movement in all directions to control all directions of movement of a cursor on a display screen of the computer by movement of at least one thumb of a user in a second direction transverse to said first direction for engagement of said keyboard means and said activating means by the user's hands disposed substantially in a prehensile alignment position with the thumb opposed to the fingers in a substantially grasping motion between the thumb and fingers of the user to cause actuation of said keyboard means and said activating means while the thumb and fingers are in close proximity in prehensile alignment when using the keyboard and whereby ulnar abducted deviation and hand-pronation are reduced.

2. A keyboard according to claim **1** further comprising:

circular means for locating twelve numbered function keys disposed toward a first outward end of said surface means; and

keypad means for locating numeric keys disposed toward a second outward end of said surface means.

3. A keyboard according to claim **2** wherein said twelve numbered function keys are positioned circumferentially around said circular means in numerical positions corresponding to numbers on a clock.

4. A keyboard according to claim **3** further comprising alternate, control and shift function keys positioned in a central portion of said circular means.

5. A keyboard according to claim **4** wherein each of the centrally positioned keys substantially occupies a 120° segment of the central portion of said circular means.

6. A keyboard according to claim **3** wherein the function keys positioned at three-, six-, nine- and twelve-o'clock comprise domed upper surfaces.

7. A keyboard according to claim **6** wherein other numbered function keys comprise flat upper surfaces.

8. A keyboard according to claim **2** wherein said keyboard means comprises first slanting keyboard surface means comprising keys for depressing by fingers of the user's left hand and second slanting keyboard surface means comprising keys for depressing by fingers of the user's right hand, said first and second keyboard surface means joined at a peaked central edge forming a V-shape which slopes downwardly toward the user and laterally away from the user.

9. A keyboard according to claim **8** wherein said spacing means comprises means positioned on said first slanting keyboard surface means and on said second slanting keyboard surface means.

10. A keyboard according to claim **9** wherein said spacing means further responds to thumb pressure in said first direction.

11. A keyboard according to claim **9** wherein said spacing means further responds to thumb pressure at a selected angle.

12. A keyboard according to claim **8** further comprising key means for locking alphabet keys in upper case or lower case mode comprising a first raised portion, actuation of which causes said key means to stay in a locked position.

13. A keyboard according to claim **12** wherein said locking key means further comprises a second raised portion, depression of which releases said key means from said locked position.

14. A keyboard according to claim **13** wherein said locking means is located on the right hand side of the keyboard.

15. A keyboard according to claim **1** wherein said activating means comprises a plurality of areas responsive to thumb pressure whereby pressure on one of said areas moves the cursor in a selected direction.

16. A keyboard according to claim **1** wherein said activating means is positioned below said spacing means.

17. A keyboard for a computer, said keyboard comprising:

a keyboard body,

first activating means located on at least one first upper surface of said keyboard body for actuation by movement of fingers of a user; and

second activating means fixed and projecting from a second surface of said keyboard body, located centrally with respect to a length of said first activating means for movement in all directions to control all directions of movement of a cursor on a display